

Research Language Education as a Soft Power Tool



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| Project Title | Research Language Education as a Soft Power Tool |
| Project Summary | Conduct research on particular models of language teaching as soft power tools. Many governments use language education as part of their public diplomacy efforts, for example the British Council or Alliance Française. What models, resources, and digital tools do they use? Which are effective? |
| Country | United States |

Project Description

Previous VSFS interns have researched the range of governments using language education (language classes and teacher exchanges) as soft power public diplomacy tools. In this project, you will have the opportunity to research one approach in depth - what resources, models, and digital tools does a specific country use. How do they measure the impact or effectiveness of these programs? Is there any documented evidence of their impact? Interns will work with a Regional English Language Officer to develop research questions to focus on a particular country.

Required Skills or Interests

Skill(s)

Analytical writing

Educational design

Research

Additional Information

Preference will be given to candidates enrolled in MA-level studies in international education, Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL), public diplomacy, or closely related fields. Strong foreign language skills are a plus, especially Chinese, Arabic, Korean, Russian, Turkish, Japanese, German, French, Spanish.

The primary audience for this research is the Office of English Language Programs in the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, including Regional English Language Offices in Embassies worldwide. Learn more about our work here: <https://eca.state.gov/about-bureau/organizational-structure/office-english-language-programs>

Language Requirements

None